

Park Security: Dog Off- Leash Citation Procedures

Saint Paul City Council granted tagging authority to Park Security Officers in the Division of Parks and Recreation on November 9, 2005. With this authorization section 19 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 19.02. Power of park security officers to issue summons

All duly appointed, qualified and acting park security officers shall have the the power to issue summonses in the same manner and with the same force and effect as summonses issued by police officers, but such authority shall be limited to violations of the Saint Paul Legislative Code which the officers observe occurring on property under the jurisdiction or control of the Division of Parks and Recreation of the City of Saint Paul. Said summonses shall be in such form as approved by the Ramsey County District Court.

It is the policy of the Division of Parks and Recreation that Park Security Officers will issue summonses for the following offenses only:

- Dogs off leash
- Failure of pet owner to remove pet feces and dispose of properly
- Illegal parking to include in the park after hours (11:00 PM)
 Any change to this policy will be under the approval of the director of parks and Recreation.

Related ordinances

Dogs:

PARKS: Sec. 170.06. General conduct.

(a) Animals restricted. Save and except upon special permission of the director, no quadruped or other animal except those placed in the park by the authority of the director, or horses with the police horse patrol while in performance of their duty, and excepting dogs accompanying their owners or other persons having charge thereof and restrained by a chain or leash, shall be conducted into, ridden or driven in the park or parkways or designated recreation areas, or be allowed to remain therein.

A dog may be unrestrained by a leash or chain in an area of the city parks system which has been designated and posted as an off-leash dog area, subject to the rules and regulations for such areas. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person shall take, allow or release, into or in any park or off-leash dog area, a dog which has:

- (1) Been designated as either potentially dangerous or dangerous under sections 200.12(d)--(g) of the Legislative Code;
- (2) Is not licensed by the city or another jurisdiction having similar licensing requirements; or
- (3) Has been excluded from the particular dog leash area or the park in which such area is located either for violation of rules and regulations promulgated by the director or under section 170.10(e) of the Legislative Code.
- (b) Off-leash dog areas. An off-leash dog area ("area" or "such area") may be created by the director of parks and recreation only in compliance with the following procedures and requirements. No such area shall be created until after the city council has solicited a recommendation from the area district council, held a hearing and approved the designation of such area by resolution. The designation of any such area may be revoked by the director on published notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the city, and without further notice or hearing, or showing of cause for such action.

Dog Off-Leash Citation Procedures - continued

CITY: Sec. 200.05. Running at large.

The license holder, owner or keeper of any dog shall be responsible for the effective restraint of such dog and shall not permit the dog to run at large. Any dog which is not effectively contained within a fenced area, or any dog which is on any unfenced area or lot abutting a street, alley, public park, school grounds or public place without being effectively restrained by chain or leash from moving beyond such unfenced area or lot, or any dog on any street, public park, school grounds or public place without being effectively restrained by chain or leash not exceeding six (6) feet in length, shall be deemed to be running at large. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a dog if:

- (1) The dog is present with an owner or keeper in an area which as been officially designated and posted as an off-leash dog area pursuant to section 170-06 of the Legislative Code; and
- (2) The dog has not been designated as potentially dangerous or dangerous under sections 200.11 or 200.12 of the Legislative Code; and
- (3) The dog has not been excluded from the particular off-leash dog area or the park in which such area is located either for violation of rules and regulations promulgated by the director or under section 170.10(e) of the Legislative Code.

Invisible (underground electric) fences may be used as a secondary restraint only, and are not an acceptable replacement for a chain, leash or properly fenced-in area.

(C.F. No. 01-1337, § 1, 2-6-02; C.F. No. 03-440, § 2, 6-4-03)

CITY: Sec. 200.09. Cleaning up litter.

- (a) The owner of any dog or any person having the custody or control of any dog shall be responsible for cleaning up any feces of the animal and disposing of such feces in a sanitary manner.
- (b) It is unlawful for any person owning, keeping or harboring a dog to cause or permit said dog to be on property, public or private, not owned or possessed by such person without having in his/her immediate possession a device for the removal of feces and depository for the transmission of excrement to a proper receptacle located on the property owned or possessed by such person.
- (c) It is unlawful for any person in control of, causing or permitting any dog to be on any property, public or private, not owned or possessed by such person to fail to remove feces left by such dog to a proper receptacle located on property owned or possessed by such person.
- (d) The provisions of **this section shall not apply to** the ownership or use of any properly **identified service dog which aids persons who are totally or partially blind or deaf or have physical or sensory disabilities**, dogs when used in police activities by the city, or tracking dogs when used by or with the permission of the city.
- (e) Any person violating this section shall be punished by a fine of ten dollars (\$10.00) or five (5) hours of public lands fecal clean-up. Any person who is found guilty of subsequent violations of this section shall be punished by a fine of at least twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) but not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- (f) **Any** peace officer, animal control officer, **park ranger**, or any duly authorized assistant, **or any duly authorized agent**, or any person authorized by the environmental health officer **should be responsible for issuing the tags.**

(C.F. No. 01-1337, § 1, 2-6-02)